

Harpenden Neighbourhood Plan

A Focused Call for Sites in Harpenden – Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Call for Sites?

A Call for Sites is an opportunity for local landowners to engage with the Neighbourhood Plan process, highlighting sites that could be considered for development as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process.

What type of development sites can be considered?

All Sites may be promoted to the Call for Sites as the Neighbourhood Plan can allocate sites for a number of uses, including employment, community, housing or leisure. There is no requirement to have a preferred use, however, if there is one already please state it on the form. Please note that the site may be considered more suitable for an alternative use to that preferred.

Why is it a Focused Call for Sites?

In order to provide a clear direction, the Call for Sites will only consider sites that have not already been put forward for allocation in St Albans City and District Council's (SADC) Local Plan. Those sites previously submitted to the SADC Local Plan but not yet allocated or permitted for development will automatically be included in the site assessment.

Why are we having a Call for Sites?

Holding a Call for Sites is an important part of the Neighbourhood Plan process. The Call for Sites will help the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the local community to better understand what land is available for development within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Having a Call for Sites in Harpenden will be the best way to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan can influence development going forward and demonstrate that a robust and rigorous process is followed in the development of a high quality and influential Neighbourhood Plan.

Does this mean we will have more development than originally planned?

The Call for Sites will not influence or encourage more housing in Harpenden than has already been identified in the SADC Local Plan. It will empower the Neighbourhood Plan process to ensure development is well located to support new and existing residents in Harpenden, now and into the future.

How are the sites assessed?

Each site put forward will be assessed against a set of criteria designed to consider its availability, deliverability and suitability for development over the Neighbourhood Plan period. The results of this exercise will be publicly available.

How long will the Call for Sites run for?

The call for sites will be open for four weeks, from **20 March to 17 April 2017 (5pm)**.

Following this date, it is intended that no further representations will be accepted by the Town Council.

Who can submit a Site?

Any landowners or stakeholders with interests in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

What is considered to be a site?

Any site can be submitted to be considered by the Neighbourhood Plan, however, please note that it may not be considered appropriate to allocate some small sites such as those less than 0.15ha or suitable for less than five new dwellings.

How do I submit a site for consideration?

You can fill in the application form provided on the Harpenden Town Council website (www.harpenden.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan) and submit this to the Town Council via email to philip.wright@harpenden.gov.uk or by post to Call for Sites, Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden AL5 2LX.